

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1, 4 and 5; Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended herein. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled herein; Claims 6 to 17 previously have been cancelled.

In the Official Action dated April 14, 2003, Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,598,207 (Kormos), and Claims 2 to 4 variously were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Kormos '207 patent, alone or further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,223,872 (Stiepel). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The present invention relates to a novel movable camera apparatus. In one aspect, as now recited in independent Claim 1, the movable camera apparatus comprises a camera unit, a pan head comprising a movable portion and a fixed portion, and first and second support portions, provided on the movable portion of the pan head, that tilt-rotatably-support the camera unit at opposing sides of the camera unit. A first circuit board is disposed in the second support portion side of the camera unit, and outputs an image signal from the camera unit. A second circuit board is disposed in the fixed portion of the pan head, for receiving an image signal. A drive unit is disposed in the first support portion and drives the camera unit in a tilt rotation direction. A connecting member, disposed in the second support portion, electrically connects the first and second circuit boards together, and transmits an image signal from the first circuit board to the second circuit board.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, and solely to advance prosecution of the application, Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled and Claims 1 and 5 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. In particular, independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of prior Claim 2, and Claim 5 has been amended to obviate the formal objection by the Examiner, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments/suggestions. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above amendments, Applicant submits that Claim 5 satisfies the formal requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; reconsideration and withdrawal of the formal rejection respectfully are requested.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The Kormos '207 patent relates to a camera pointing mechanism using proximate magnetic sensing, and discloses a camera having an arrangement in which a night vision system 1 is rotatable-supported by a mechanism 500. However, Applicant submits that Kormos '207 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above described features of the present invention. Nowhere is the Kormos '207 patent understood to disclose or suggest at least the feature of Claim 1 wherein the first circuit board is disposed

in the second support portion side of the camera unit, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

The Stiepel '872 patent relates to a surveillance device with eyeball assembly and pivotably mountable carriage assembly, and discloses a carriage assembly for mounting an eyeball assembly to a housing provided in an surveillance assembly and including a pivot and engagement parts which allow the carriage assembly to be pivoted into position; the Stiepel '872 patent also discloses a cable support assembly for an electrical cable connected between a camera lens assembly and another part of the surveillance assembly, in which the cable support assembly permits the cable to be wound about the pivot access of the camera and lens assembly. However, Applicant submits that the Stiepel '872 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. In particular, Applicant submits that the Stiepel '872 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of (1) a first circuit board disposed in a second support portion side of the camera unit, and (2) a connecting member disposed in the second support portion, electrically connecting the first and second circuit boards together, and transmitting an image signal from the first circuit board to the second circuit board, as disclosed and claimed in the present application. Rather, Applicant submits that the Stiepel '872 patent merely discloses a surveillance assembly in which an eye ball assembly 2 housing a lens and a camera assembly 4 is disposed within a housing 7, where the eyeball assembly is rotated, and further discloses that circuit boards of such assemblies are connected to each other by ribbon cable. Nor is the Stiepel '872 patent believed to add anything to the Kormos '207 patent that would make obvious the claimed invention.

Specifically, although the Kormos '207 patent discloses an arrangement in which a night vision system 1 is rotatable-supported by a mechanism 500, and the Steipel '872 patent discloses ribbon cable connecting circuit boards of respective assemblies, nowhere is either of these references understood to teach the recited positions of the electrical components of a night vision system, or to provide motivation for any combination of features that would obviate this aspect of the present invention, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claims 4 and 5 depend from Claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of base Claim 1, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

In a formal matter, by separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted corrected formal drawings including the proposed amendments set forth in the Request for Approval to Amend the Drawings dated July 8, 2002, which were approved by the Examiner in the Official Action dated April 14, 2003. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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